



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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Contact: Sondra Artis
Phone: 919/733-5612

**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES \$4.2 MILLION IN GRANTS FROM PARKS AND
RECREATION TRUST FUND TO 14 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced nearly \$4.2 million in grants from the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to 14 local governments for parks and recreation projects. The matching grants will help fund land acquisition, development and renovation of public park and recreation areas.

“Recreation opportunities and open space are critical in ensuring a high quality of life in our communities,” said Easley. “Since 1995, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund has played a vital role in preserving our state’s natural resources. Through the use of the Fund, North Carolina and its local governments have forged a partnership in our commitment to conservation, environmental stewardship and economic opportunity.”

Since May, the Fund has awarded \$17.7 million in grants to 55 local governments. During the 2005-06 funding cycle, 86 grant applications requesting more than \$27 million were considered. A maximum of \$500,000 can be awarded to a single project.

The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund is administered through the Division of Parks and Recreation and was established in 1994 when the General Assembly dedicated 75 percent of the state’s share of the excise tax on real estate deed transfers to the Fund. The revenue is distributed to three programs: 65 percent to the state parks system for repairs, capital improvements and land acquisition; 30 percent for matching grants to local parks and recreation programs for development and land acquisition; and five percent to the coastal beach access program.

Local governments receiving the grants include:

- Asheville: \$500,000, Reid Center Renovation
- Bertie County: \$500,000, Bertie Recreation Complex
- Dublin: \$50,812, Dublin Park
- Elk Park: \$6,700, Lucille Winters Memorial Park
- Greene County: \$350,000, Greene County Recreational Complex
- Henderson County: \$500,000, Edneyville Community Center

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